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Copy No. 11CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
14 February 1955TO: Deputy Director (Intelligence)
SUBJECT: Offshore Island SituationGeneral

Peiping radio announced Sunday that Chinese Communist troops had landed on the main Tachens and on Yushan and Pishan. The broadcast said that these islands would be advantageous in the "liberation" of Formosa, and boasted that all islands off the Chekiang coast had been captured, "except for Nanchishan."

The Communists may plan to use the Tachens as a naval base, from which their ships could operate to the south. It is questionable whether the Tachen terrain would permit the Communists to construct a jet air base there. In any event, such a base would be difficult to supply.

Matsu

Negative.

Quemoy

Chinese Communist artillery shelled Quemoy [redacted] Sunday in the heaviest artillery action of the past 10 days. Press reports from Taipei state that 59 rounds were fired by the Communists. The Communists are expected to increase the scale of their probing operations against major islands before attempting to invade them.

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